

Books & Breakfast and Pre-Literacy Awareness

Time spent reading to your children is time well spent! By reading out loud with your child, you are enforcing critical pre-literacy skills. When you model the six simple concepts below, you'll be laying the important groundwork needed for your child to learn to read.

The Books & Breakfast program offers kindergarteners and their caregivers an opportunity to spend some special time together in the school library before the school day begins. We provide breakfast and a special storytime devoted to modeling each of the pre-literacy skills, and then provide parent book packs that you can check out and take home to continue reading together.

The program usually runs in the fall and again in the spring, so watch for program flyers!

The 6 Pre-Literacy Skills:

LOVE BOOKS

Print motivation: being interested in and enjoying books.

Tip *Begin reading books early – even when your child is a baby. But it's never too late to start!*

USE BOOKS

Print awareness: understanding that print has meaning; noticing print everywhere, not just in books; knowing how to handle a book.

Tip *If there are only a few words on the page, point to each word as you say it.*

LEARN WORDS

Vocabulary: knowing the names of things.

Tip *Read to your children in your first language. Don't hesitate to ask a librarian for help finding books in your first language!. When you come to words your child isn't familiar with, don't substitute with an easier word.*

SEE LETTERS

Letter knowledge: knowing that letters look different from each other; knowing letter names and sounds.

Tip *Name different shapes: the ball is round, the box is square, the line is straight. Letters are built on shapes. Check out some alphabet books!*

HEAR SOUNDS

Phonological sensitivity: being able to hear and play with the smaller sounds that make up words.

Tip *Make up your own silly songs and rhymes.*

TELL a STORY

Narrative skills: being able to describe things and events, and tell stories.

Tip *Talk to your child about the every day things you are doing.*

Source: http://www.hclib.org/BirthTo6/EarlyLit_Skill.cfm